



Frederick County Commission For Women

5370 Public Safety Place, 3rd Floor

Frederick, MD 21704

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Public Meeting Minutes October 13, 2015

COMMISSIONERS

Annie Jones
President

Michelle Nusum-Smith
Vice President

Sharon Dobson
Recorder

Evelyn Stephenson
Treasurer

Christine Ferguson
Past President

Nina Carr
Rosario Campos
Adrijana Parsell
Chloe Scott
Olga Hernandez-Smith
Shellome Walters

The Commission for Women meets the second Tuesday of every month (except July) at 7:00pm. The public is invited.

The Commission for Women is a program of the Frederick County Government

Commissioners Present: Annie Jones, Michelle Nusum-Smith, Sharon Dobson, Christine Ferguson, Nina Carr, Rosario Campos, Adrijana Parsell, Chloe Scott and Olga Hernandez-Smith

Commissioners Absent: Evelyn Stephenson and Shellome Walters

Guests: Constance Baptist, Theresa Smith, Karen Czapanskiy, Marnica Johnson (CFW Intern), Vivian Laxton, Jan Gardner (Speaker), Leslie Barnes, Whitney Duck, Diana Carrillo (CFW Intern), Silva Munoz, Valerie Dougherty and Jaanai Priest

President Annie Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. A quorum was present at this time.

I. Executive Committee Report

- Guests in attendance acknowledge, introduction of guests and commissioners.
- Motion was made and seconded to approve the September 7, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion passed.
- Guest Speaker: County Executive Jan H. Gardner. Ms. Gardner discussed the questions submitted by the Commission for Women prior to this meeting. She highlighted a few programs that the County is working on and asked the CFW to support advocating for release of funds from the State for the Geographic Cost of Education Index. She also discussed the Community Partnership Grants, 55 organizations have applied for funding. The announcement of funding is expected in December. A new program was also announced; *The Path to Excellence Event* will be held in Frederick County in June 2016. This event is being sponsored by the Daily Record Newspaper of Baltimore. This will be a networking event for women. The CFW was asked to participate.
- An update of the office and new furniture was given. Commissioner Walters was thanked for her donation of the office furniture as well as those who helped move and set it up.
- Quarterly financial report will occur in November. The request for funding from the County is being updated.

II. Old Business

- **International Day of the Girl** Several commissioners attending this event at the FCPS where a proclamation was read about the International Day of the Girl.
- **Latino Festival Participation** Volunteers displayed the CFW booth at this event.
- **County Legislative Town Hall**
 - i. The Commission is working on a statement of support to encourage the release of State GCEI money (Geographic Cost of Education Index) as discussed by Ms. Gardner.
- **CFW Regular office hours**
 - i. The Commission will hold a meet and greet before the January 2016 Public Meeting in Winchester Hall instead of the Commission office.
- **SheLEADS pilot leadership development program for high school students**
 - ii. Planning to hold four, hour-long sessions on Leadership Qualities, Goal Setting, Advocacy, and Service

Our Mission: To create a stronger community by addressing challenges and fostering unlimited opportunities for all women.

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- iii. Annie and Chloe will meet with Frederick High School guidance department on Friday October 23rd
- iv. Tonya Hatossy-Stier, the Program Coordinator for the Women to Women Mentoring has agreed to meet and share information

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III. New Business

• Upcoming events at which the Commission will be present

- i. **Naturalization Event:** Saturday, October 17 at 11 a.m. in Winchester Hall. Volunteers were requested to attend.
- ii. **8th Annual Frederick Community Health Fair:** Saturday, October 24, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Frederick County Fairgrounds. The CFW will have the booth at this event and volunteers were requested to either work at the booth or the event itself.

• Upcoming Human Trafficking Initiatives

- i. The CFW is partnering with the Human Relations Commission and Heartly House to host a presentation titled, "Innocence Stolen- Protecting Our Children Online" by Vincent DiVivo of the United States Attorneys Office on November 17th at Governor Thomas Jonson High School. 1501 North Market Street, Frederick MD. Doors open at 6pm with presentation at 6:30.
 - i. The Executive Committee has established a budget of \$150 for the event to cover publicity, water, and handouts.
- ii. A representative from Human Rights International will be meeting with interested Commissioners and Volunteers on Friday, November 7 to discuss hosting a future event.
- iii. Diana has begun compiling materials and research to prepare a human trafficking awareness toolkit to empower people to make presentations throughout the county.
- iv. CFW Human Trafficking Committee is finalizing the details for the event at Governor Thomas Johnson High School on November 17, 2015. The partners for this event are Human Relations Commission and Heartly House.

• The CFW is forming a special committee on public health

- i. Establishing a partnership with the Asian American Center of Frederick. Commissioner Dobson and Intern Johnson will meeting with Elizabeth Chung to discuss this partnership.

- **Frederick County Coalition on AIDS task force update** A meeting will be set up to see how the CFW can assist in celebrating World AID Day, December 1, 2015. The program will be held at the Dublin Roasters.

• The Women to Women Mentoring Program has graduated from a Program to an Organization.

- i. The CFW would like to recognize this achievement at an upcoming Commission meeting

- **Commissioner announcements** Diana Carrillo was acknowledged for the newsletter. The October issue highlighted Domestic Violence Month.

- The November 2015 speaker will be Shari Scher, Children of Incarcerated Parents.

IV. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm and the Commission went into closed session to discuss new Commissioner applications.

*Next Public Meeting: Tuesday, November 10th, 2015 at 7 p.m. **NEW LOCATION: 2nd Floor of Winchester Hall in the Winchester Room.***

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